In the Claims:

1

2

10

11

12

13

14

15

17

18

19

20

21

22

24

Claims 1 to 6 (canceled).

7.	(currently	amended)	A	filtration	apparatus	comprising:
----	------------	----------	---	------------	-----------	-------------

- a housing head having an inlet and an outlet;
- a housing bowl detachably attached to said housing head and surrounding a cartridge filter to define a channel wall; and
 - a releasable clamping device that exerts a force to press said housing head and said housing bowl against each other to clamp said housing head and said housing bowl together, wherein:

said housing head has a ring-shaped first sealing portion that faces said housing bowl;

said housing bowl has a ring-shaped second sealing portion that abuts directly against said first sealing portion when said clamping device exerts said force to press said housing head and said housing bowl against each other;

one of said first and second sealing portions is a protrusion and another of said first and second sealing portions is a recess;

with respect to an axial section axial section along a cylindrical axis line of said housing head and said housing bowl, said protrusion has a radially inner arcuate curved protrusion surface and a radially outer arcuate curved protrusion surface;

10/18/2004 15:37

25

26

27

28

29

30

31

32

33

34

35

36

37

38

said recess is bounded by a radially inner recess wall portion and a radially outer recess wall portion; [[and]]

said radially inner arcuate curved protrusion surface presses against said radially inner recess wall portion to form a first inner circular seal, and said radially outer arcuate curved protrusion surface presses against said radially outer recess wall portion to form a second outer circular seal, wherein said circular seals are formed at locations within a depth of said recess displaced away from terminal outer free edges of said recess wall portions. portions; and

wherein said radially inner recess wall portion and said radially outer recess wall portion each have an arcuate curved shape with respect to said axial section.

(previously presented) The filtration apparatus according 8. 1 to claim 7, wherein said radially inner and radially outer 2 arcuate curved protrusion surfaces are portions of an overall semi-circular curved sectional shape of said protrusion with respect to said axial section.

Claim 9 (canceled).

(currently amended) The filtration apparatus according to 1 10. claim [9,] 7, wherein said radially inner and radially 2 outer recess wall portions are portions of an overall 3 semi-circular curved sectional shape of said recess with respect to said axial section.

4277/WFF:ar

- 1 11. (previously presented) The filtration apparatus according 2 to claim 7, excluding any O-ring between said housing head 3 and said housing bowl.
- 1 12. (previously presented) The filtration apparatus according
 2 to claim 7, wherein, when said recess and said protrusion
 3 are pressed against each other, said recess is increased in
 4 width elastically and has resilience allowing said recess
 5 to cooperate with said protrusion to form said seals.
- 1 13. (previously presented) The filtration apparatus according
 2 to claim 7, wherein said housing head, said cartridge
 3 filter and said housing bowl are all formed of a
 4 fluororesin.

[RESPONSE CONTINUES ON NEXT PAGE]